

1 Strong programming and a commitment to  
2 localism is the only way, in our minds, that an AM  
3 station can be successful. The Tribune Company with  
4 its long time dedication to news and community service  
5 has made a sustained commitment to supporting a radio  
6 station like WGN. If WGN were sold because an FCC  
7 rule required it, WGN would most likely end up no  
8 longer being a stand alone station, instead falling  
9 into the hands of a multi-station conglomerate.

10 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you. Thank you,  
11 Mr. Langmyer.

12 MR. LANGMYER: Thank you. WGN Radio is  
13 live, we are local, and we're connected to the  
14 community and strengthened for the community by its  
15 historic ties to the Tribune Company. Thank you.

16 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you, Mr.  
17 Langmyer.

18 (Applause.)

19 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Ms. Leavell.

20 MS. LEAVELL: Yes. Good evening, Mr.  
21 Chairman, and to the Commissioners, panelists, and  
22 people represented here today.

23 I am Dorothy Leavell, Publisher and Editor  
24 of The Crusader Newspaper Group, which publishes the  
25 oldest African-American weekly newspapers in both

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1 Chicago and Gary, Indiana. In addition, I am Chairman  
2 of the National Newspaper Publishers Association  
3 Foundation in Washington, D.C., the advocacy and  
4 philanthropic arm of the Black Press in the United  
5 States.

6 Our organization represents the country's  
7 largest concentration of African-American owned media  
8 in this country, represented in more than 145 cities  
9 and reaching every Black household in America. For  
10 over 180 years, the Black Press has been the voice and  
11 pulse of our people, allowing them greater  
12 participation in our democracy.

13 (Applause.)

14 MS. LEAVELL: It is in this heritage that I  
15 come before you today to encourage the FCC to re-  
16 examine media rules which have created an environment  
17 of unchecked disregard for its minority listenership  
18 and viewership. The FCC's deregulations have produced  
19 zero benefit for the African-American community as a  
20 whole. It has impaired our broadcast media forcing  
21 many Black broadcasters into smaller less profitable  
22 markets, or pushing them off the air altogether.

23 The 1996 Telecommunications Act issued a  
24 death blow to smaller minority owned firms that cannot  
25 afford to advertise on the very airwaves on which

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1 their customers listen. All of these Black media  
2 companies Clear Channel, Disney, CBS, General  
3 Electric, and so forth, are making a profit off of the  
4 African-American community. But the people  
5 themselves --

6 (Applause.)

7 MS. LEAVELL: -- profit very little. We  
8 don't want crumbs, we want meaningful participation,  
9 ownership, access to the airwaves, and more  
10 responsible programming.

11 Given our history in this great nation of  
12 ours, African-Americans are not surprised by a  
13 changing of the rules. Once we are in a position to  
14 compete, gain access, equity, or justice, suddenly we  
15 find that the rules have changed. We are no longer on  
16 a level playing field. We aren't even in the same  
17 ballpark.

18 In 1996, the FCC hosted an all-you-can-eat  
19 buffet and the American people were not invited to  
20 dine. The level of Black ownership --

21 (Applause.)

22 MS. LEAVELL: -- our broadcast media has  
23 fallen by 30 percent over the past nine years. And,  
24 Commissioner Copps, it's accurate in calling this, and  
25 I quote, "A national disgrace."

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1           In Chicago, Black broadcasters are  
2 represented solely by WVON, which has heroically  
3 fought to stay on the air. But now the community is  
4 left to wonder, what will become of the market's only  
5 African-American owned radio station, given that now  
6 it has a local market agreement, LMA, with Clear  
7 Channel. It is not lost on industry insiders that  
8 LMAs are also referred to as losing-my-ass  
9 agreements --

10           (Applause.)

11           MS. LEAVELL: We don't want to lose WVON to  
12 Clear Channel. We want strong independent profitable  
13 African-American broadcast media in Chicago, and  
14 throughout the country. Instead, the FCC's past  
15 decision have, once again, forced African-Americans to  
16 the back of the bus in terms of economic opportunity  
17 and equity.

18           Local radio and television lack quality  
19 relevant news and information that adequately depict  
20 the diversity of African-American lifestyles.  
21 Instead --

22           (Applause.)

23           MS. LEAVELL: -- of complementing the Black  
24 Press, which often lacks the resources to reach our  
25 people on a desired daily basis, these broadcasters

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1 repeatedly ignore the urgent need for quality news and  
2 information. Nearly 100 percent of what is broadcast  
3 on American airwaves is created, produced and  
4 authorized by Christian, White, Asian men, executives  
5 headquartered in Dallas and New York are not connected  
6 to what is going on in Englewood, Harvey, University  
7 Park, Austin, Country Club Hills, Mondale, Roseland,  
8 or Chatham.

9 We are tired of the smoke and mirrors these  
10 big media companies play with the FCC and within the  
11 community. We want to send a clear message to the  
12 media monstrosities that the African-American  
13 community cannot be silenced and bought out with  
14 sponsorship of chicken dinners --

15 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you very much --

16 MS. LEAVELL: -- and conventions.

17 MODERATOR SIGALOS: -- Ms. Leavell. Thank  
18 you.

19 (Applause and cheers.)

20 MS. LEAVELL: My longer version is  
21 available for all to hear.

22 MODERATOR SIGALOS: One moment, Mr. Lyle.

23 MS. LEAVELL: I have two more paragraphs --

24 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Mr. Lyle.

25 MS. LEAVELL: -- but you got the message.

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1 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Mr. Lyle.

2 MR. LYLE: Mr. Benton, you thought you had  
3 a tough act to follow.

4 Mr. Chairman, members of the Commission, as  
5 President and CEO of the Illinois Broadcasters  
6 Association, and on behalf of the many broadcasters we  
7 represent here in the state, welcome to our fine state  
8 and this fabulous City of Chicago.

9 And while tonight's hearing may take place  
10 in one of the largest media markets in America, let  
11 me remind you that you are first and foremost in the  
12 State of Illinois. A state that's home of a balanced  
13 mix of independent and corporate broadcast owners  
14 operating in all size markets, and what I would  
15 suggest is a true reflection of the ownership  
16 landscape we find throughout American today.

17 If you were to stay a few extra days to  
18 travel throughout our state, you'd find our airwaves  
19 filled with a variety of examples of broadcasters  
20 serving their communities of license well. You'd hear  
21 a play by play of high school sports, news coverage of  
22 city council meetings, on air fundraisers for local  
23 charities, just to name a few.

24 The fact today's gathering here in Chicago  
25 is indeed an official on the record FCC hearing

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1 suggests that there will be plenty of time for  
2 listening. We hope we can count on you to do just  
3 that. But as the night progresses, it's important you  
4 hear the dedication of broadcasters in our state.

5 It's important you hear stories of  
6 listeners and viewers alike who rely on their local  
7 broadcasters to not only alert them in time of bad  
8 weather, but also solicit their help in times when bad  
9 people abduct innocent children. It's important you  
10 hear examples explaining how in a recent survey some  
11 \$463 million of reported \$10.3 billion in public  
12 service generated by America's broadcasters came from  
13 Illinois broadcasters.

14 It's important you hear that Illinois  
15 broadcasters reach outside the state's borders in time  
16 of national need. When the FCC formed the media  
17 security and reliability council after 9/11 to  
18 identify and promote best practices when major  
19 disasters hit, you asked IBA member Tribune Company to  
20 lead the effort. They did so and their efforts were  
21 tested when Hurricane Katrina ravaged the Gulf Coast.

22 Unlike some government agencies,  
23 broadcasters rose to the occasion to hold the New  
24 Orleans community together when Mother Nature ripped  
25 it apart. And just this week, Tribune Broadcasting

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1 was given the highest award for community service by  
2 the Ad Council, the media industry's leading public  
3 service organization. Illinois broadcasters'  
4 commitments to their communities near and far are  
5 impressive indeed.

6 It's important tonight you hear the  
7 dedication Illinois broadcasters have for assuring the  
8 broadcast industry employees a diverse work force.  
9 That ongoing commitment to diversity allows our  
10 association to annually team together with down state  
11 Bradley University in providing a one week hands on  
12 high school multicultural student summer workshop for  
13 up to 25 high school students, many likely getting  
14 their first away from home college experience while at  
15 the same time being introduced to careers in  
16 broadcasting.

17 It's important you hear about our  
18 association's multicultural intern program, now in its  
19 20th year of providing hands on paid internships to  
20 some of Illinois' brightest college students seeking a  
21 post-graduate broadcast career. These efforts  
22 devote -- rather dove tail nicely with the programs  
23 that broadcasters have established on a nationwide  
24 scale through the NAB Educational Foundation, known as  
25 NABEF.

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1 NABEF is working to increase diversity at  
2 all levels of broadcasting through a wide range of  
3 education and training programs. For example, NABEF  
4 runs an executive level MBA style program for women  
5 and people of color who want to be station owners and  
6 senior executives of broadcasting. In fact, 18 of the  
7 125 graduates of this program have actually gone on to  
8 become station owners. And some 28 have advanced to  
9 senior management or larger markets. NABEF also  
10 provides fellowships for other management training  
11 programs, like the management development seminar for  
12 television executives run right here at Northwestern.

13 And it's important you hear that Illinois  
14 broadcasters expand the diversity efforts outside  
15 radio and TV when government regulations don't tie  
16 their hands. Since 2003 Tribune has published *Hoy*,  
17 the only Spanish language daily newspaper in Illinois.

18 It sets its editorial policy independently from the  
19 *Chicago Tribune*, covers news, politics, cultural and  
20 entertainment issues of concern to the Chicago area's  
21 largest minority group, nearly two million in size.  
22 *Hoy* has created new jobs in journalism and marketing  
23 for Latinos, and brought Chicago's Hispanic community  
24 closer together through its involvement in community  
25 organizations and events.

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1           The list of diversity promoting efforts is  
2 long, but to ensure these opportunities are truly  
3 meaningful, we must have a public policy that seeks to  
4 ensure a multitude of voices in the media while at the  
5 same time allowing enough flexibility to foster a  
6 competitive and healthy media market.

7           Mr. Chairman, Commissioners clearly the  
8 current archaic media ownership rules hold back the  
9 entire industry, so please listen tonight, and then  
10 come to the realization why --

11           MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you --

12           MR. LYLE: -- so many of FCC's current  
13 rules, some adapted nearly a generation ago have  
14 embraced --

15           MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you, Mr. Lyle.

16           MR. LYLE: -- the serve to our local  
17 communities and the diverse neighborhoods they serve.  
18 Thank you.

19           MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you very much.

20           (Applause.)

21           MODERATOR SIGALOS: Mr. Nowakowski.

22           MR. NOWAKOWSKI: Thank you. Good evening.

23           My name is Douglas Nowakowski, and I'm testifying on  
24 behalf of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters,  
25 and its General President, James P. Hoffa,

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1 representing 1.4 million members and hundreds of  
2 thousands of retirees who live in communities across  
3 the country.

4 For 35 years I worked at both of the two  
5 major newspaper in Baltimore, the *Baltimore News*  
6 *American* and the *Baltimore Sun* Company. I had  
7 represented employees as an elected Union official at  
8 both newspapers for nearly 20 years, and continue to  
9 represent newspaper workers across the country as a  
10 teamster representative, including roughly 2,000 at  
11 Tribune Company papers.

12 We appreciate the Commissioners' interest  
13 in conducting public hearings to review broadcast  
14 ownership concerns and in seeking ways to protect the  
15 public interest in an ever evolving industry.

16 My comments today will focus specifically  
17 on private equity ownership of once publically held  
18 broadcast companies, and I'll reference the proposed  
19 Tribune buy out as an example of why the FCC must  
20 concern itself with the ownership structure of media  
21 companies, particularly when waivers of cross-  
22 broadcast ownership rules have been sought in order to  
23 fulfill its mission to protect localism, view point  
24 diversity, media access, and other issues of vital  
25 importance.

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1           While the financing structure of media  
2 companies has not generally been considered pertinent  
3 to the issues of interest to the FCC in reviewing  
4 transfer applications, proposed financing is  
5 particularly relevant when the transfer of ownership  
6 is to private equity.

7           The structure proposed in the Tribune  
8 application provides insight into the potential  
9 dangers of approving an ownership structure that  
10 insulates an individual with total control of the  
11 company from the owners of that company, as well as  
12 the diverse interest of the communities that company  
13 serves. This is the critical difference between  
14 private and public ownership.

15           In the Tribune Company's application to the  
16 FCC for a change of control and waivers to its  
17 broadcast cross-ownership rules, the ownership of the  
18 company and its 16 newspapers and 23 television  
19 stations will be transferred to an employee stock  
20 ownership plan, but will only be controlled by one  
21 individual, Sam Zell, who will serve as it Chairman of  
22 the Board. Despite being owners, the employees with  
23 have no voice in the governance of the ESOP or the  
24 operating company. Additionally, the ESOP trustee and  
25 all nine members of the ESOP plan committee, all

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1 residents of Illinois, were hand picked by management.

2 Not only is this an opportunity lost, it  
3 sets a bad precedent in its separation of ownership  
4 from management, and its insulation of Mr. Zell from  
5 meaningful licensee responsibility. Giving voice to  
6 the employee owners would better serve the public  
7 interest. The employee owners of Tribune represent a  
8 very diverse group, likely representing every race,  
9 ethnicity, gender, age, sexual orientation, socio-  
10 economic status, and profession within the company,  
11 and also important, every geographic area served by  
12 the Tribune Company.

13 This diverse perspective would better serve  
14 the company and the citizens of Tribune served  
15 communities, and would re-emphasize the fundamental  
16 role of licensee responsibility in the Commission's  
17 regulatory function. Thank you very much.

18 (Applause.)

19 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you, Mr.  
20 Nowakowski.

21 Ms. Rivera.

22 MS. RIVERA: Good evening. My name is  
23 Silvia Rivera, and I'm General Manager of 90.5 FM  
24 Radio Arte, a community radio station owned by the  
25 National Museum of Mexican Art, and, unfortunately,

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1 one of the handful of public radio stations owned by  
2 Latinos in this country.

3 Equally as important to point out, and  
4 lamentable, is that I'm one of the few women in a  
5 position of leadership, not just in Chicago, but  
6 throughout the country.

7 Commissioners, I submit to you that even in  
8 public media, the Latino community is underserved and  
9 under-represented as are women in other communities of  
10 color.

11 With the third largest Latino population,  
12 and the second largest Mexican population in the  
13 country, Chicago stands as one of the prime American  
14 cities. But to be quick and to the point, despite our  
15 city's diversity, this reality is not reflected in our  
16 media landscape.

17 We do not own our own media, we will not be  
18 able to own our own media if further consolidation  
19 occurs. And the current media that does cater to the  
20 Spanish speaking Latino community is falling short of  
21 serving the public's interest. The statistics are  
22 evident in the Benton Foundation report that you have  
23 read, or should read, and other *Fress Press* studies.  
24 And you will surely hear more statistics tonight.

25 Today I speak for my colleagues working in

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1 Spanish language media, working in TV, radio and  
2 print. Today I speak for those who are not able to  
3 testify here today because if they did their jobs  
4 would be compromised. But today I will speak for them  
5 and the affects that 10 years of media ownership  
6 consolidation has had on the Latino community, because  
7 my colleagues, if they were here right now, they would  
8 speak of limited opportunities for growth.

9 They will tell you that while there are  
10 more TV and radio stations catering to the Spanish  
11 speaking Latino community, jobs have been consolidated  
12 or eliminated altogether, they will tell you that the  
13 hours have been extended without an increase in pay,  
14 that the quality of programming has been compromised,  
15 that creativity has been stifled, that localism has  
16 been diluted.

17 My colleagues in print media would tell you  
18 of dwindling commissions and sales because of general  
19 market papers in this town giving ad space in this  
20 Spanish dailies as freebies as incentives to their  
21 clients. They will tell you of the overuse of  
22 syndicated wire, and of less staffing for local  
23 coverage, and so on, and so on, and so on.

24 But unfortunately my colleagues can say  
25 nothing because if you want to work in this town in

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1 media, in the field of communications, you must stay  
2 quiet. So much for freedom of speech.

3 (Applause.)

4 MS. RIVERA: And of freedom of choice,  
5 because as far as choices in media, we only have a  
6 few. Turn on Spanish language TV and you get  
7 *telenovelas*; you get sexualized images of our women;  
8 bikinis and Latinas, that sells. Let's program some  
9 more of that. Let's program the DJ and his sexual  
10 innuendos, his homophobic rhetoric. Let's play the  
11 same record over and over again, because the record  
12 company that promotes the artist just happens --

13 (Applause and cheering.)

14 MS. RIVERA: -- to own the radio station,  
15 that happens to website, that happens to own, well, I  
16 guess the public interest. Never mind the musical  
17 heritage of the city when artists can get played on  
18 the internet. But even that liberty is under threat.

19 *Si tuviera tiempo les diria de todas las*  
20 *cosas ofensivas que he escuchado en el aire.* For all  
21 you know, I could have sworn at you. But without a  
22 process in place that informs the Latino community  
23 that they do not have to listen to the Spanish-  
24 language equivalents of the seven filthy words, they  
25 are subject to the commercial interest of media who

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1 qualify this as entertainment. And, no, I did not  
2 swear. We are broadcasting this live, and I don't  
3 want to get fined.

4 So if the FCC is here wanting to know if  
5 Chicago's residents are being well served, the answer  
6 is no. If local talent is being covered, the answer  
7 is no. If community issues are being treated  
8 sensitively, the answer is no. If minority group's  
9 getting the coverage and input that they need, the  
10 answer is no. The answer is no.

11 Today, on behalf of the Latino/Latina  
12 community, I ask the FCC to support laws that would  
13 return the airwaves to the people, encourage localism  
14 and diversity, end these monopolies, safeguard our  
15 freedom of speech, of choice, and create opportunities  
16 for marginalized communities to have their voice.

17 Please support Commissioner Adelstein and  
18 Copps' recommendations, as they are just and long  
19 overdue. *Sí, se puede, comisionados.* And, no, I did  
20 not swear.

21 (Applause and cheering.)

22 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you, Ms. Rivera.

23 (Applause.)

24 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Ms. Withers.

25 MS. WITHERS: Good evening, Chairman

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1 Martin, and to the entire Commission. I'm Dana  
2 Withers. My company is Dana Communications,  
3 headquartered in Benton, Illinois.

4 I own and operate stations in Illinois and  
5 Missouri, all located in small communities where we  
6 are the information lifeline, the sports voice, and  
7 the public service provider. I acquired my first  
8 station 15 years ago with seller financing, improved  
9 the coverage from 3,000 to 25,000 watts, and have  
10 gradually over the years building five stations from  
11 an application process.

12 I just completed my term as Chairman of the  
13 Illinois Broadcasters Association, and presently serve  
14 on the Executive Committee as immediate past Chair.

15 I will be the first one to agree with some  
16 of you about the state of radio. Radio as an industry  
17 is not the same as it was 10-20-40 years ago. Is it a  
18 bad thing? I don't think so. The media industry has  
19 changed. No one can deny that. How people have  
20 listened to music has changed, how they receive and  
21 engage with the news has changed. And for radio  
22 owners like myself, the competitive pressures have  
23 changed drastically.

24 Nonetheless, we still provide top quality  
25 music, news, local information, weather, emergency

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1 services to local communities for free. I believe,  
2 just as Congress believes, that the rules that govern  
3 this industry should reflect the undeniable changes in  
4 the media market place.

5 It is easy to see the past through rose  
6 colored glasses, but every day radio station owners  
7 have to deal with reality, and the reality is that  
8 outdated regulations can hold us back from competing  
9 with industries that are not regulated like ours. Few  
10 people know this, but there are more radio stations  
11 today in the United States than ever. In fact,  
12 despite all the complaints about media consolidation,  
13 there are more radio station owners than before.

14 These simple statistics belie the often  
15 repeated claim that radio in this country has been  
16 swallowed by a few corporate giants. Sure there are  
17 some large companies, as there are in any industry  
18 worth investing in. But lost in all the yelling and  
19 finger pointing are the thousands of other radio  
20 station owners that compete fiercely in every local  
21 community in this country.

22 Decades ago we used to compete with each  
23 other and maybe a few local newspapers.  
24 Unfortunately, those days are long gone. Now radio  
25 stations are competing for the same advertising

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1 dollars as television, cable, newspaper, internet  
2 sites, and huge internet aggregaters like Google.  
3 Google recently purchased You Tube, with nary a  
4 complaint from Washington. And yet the combined  
5 advertising revenue of those two companies outweighs  
6 our own by a factor larger than I'd like to admit.

7 Even in the face of these new competitive  
8 pressures we have, and will not, forget that our  
9 primary task is service to the community. I'm sure  
10 I'm not the first broadcaster to sit on one of these  
11 panels and tell you that broadcasters contribute  
12 billions of dollars in community service every year,  
13 but it is clearly a huge number.

14 And I think you would be hard pressed to  
15 find an industry that contributes more to their local  
16 communities than broadcasters. But like anything in  
17 the business world, community service, quality  
18 journalism, good local talent, and qualified staff  
19 cost money. The radio business is not getting  
20 cheaper, and with competition for advertising  
21 increasing by the month, every dollar we earn has to  
22 be spread that much further.

23 We cannot have a robust and effective  
24 broadcasting system in this country if it is allowed  
25 to be choked by regulations created for a wholly

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1 different area -- era, an era of three television  
2 networks, no cable, no satellite, and no internet.  
3 Many of these regulations were put into place before  
4 the advent of tape players and 8-track tapes. I don't  
5 know about any of you, but I haven't owned an 8-track  
6 player in 25 years.

7 It's hard sometimes on this side of the  
8 debate to wax poetic about the financials of the  
9 broadcast industry. No matter how much I flower up  
10 the language, it's probably not going to bring this  
11 intelligent audience to tears.

12 But as I mentioned before, I have to deal  
13 in realities, and the reality today is that radio  
14 stations have to fight harder than ever to compete.  
15 Without some modernization of rules, traditional media  
16 like radio, television, and newspaper will remain  
17 shackled by chains of a bygone era as new media  
18 entities flourish without any type of restraint.

19 Like any industry, radio has to adapt to  
20 the changes in the market place. We are eager to  
21 embrace new technologies and new plans to remain  
22 relevant in our local communities for decades to come.

23 We hope you will allow us that chance. Thank you.

24 (Applause.)

25 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you, Ms. Withers.

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1 Audience, can you please join me in  
2 thanking the panelists for their participation this  
3 evening?

4 (Applause.)

5 CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Before we move on, I  
6 actually -- I just had -- I wanted to ask one quick  
7 question of Karen Bond.

8 Could you tell -- could you just follow up  
9 for a second on your idea that you mentioned about  
10 elected representatives from the local community on  
11 the board?

12 MS. BOND: I'm sorry. I can't hear you.

13 CHAIRMAN MARTIN: I said, could you follow  
14 up -- sorry -- I believe that's on -- could you follow  
15 up for just one minute and give me -- and repeat again  
16 your ideas about how there should be a panel of  
17 elected representatives on the local broadcasters  
18 boards? You mentioned that, I didn't quite understand  
19 what you were talking about. Could you --

20 MS. BOND: To review the -- see there's a  
21 fan right here, so --

22 CHAIRMAN MARTIN: I know.

23 MS. BOND: To review the diversity  
24 recommendations -- oh, sorry -- to review the  
25 diversity recommendations.

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1 CHAIRMAN MARTIN: No, I think you were  
2 talking about on the local board --

3 MS. BOND: Oh, the elected board.

4 CHAIRMAN MARTIN: Yes.

5 MS. BOND: Oh, I'm sorry. I'm sorry. The  
6 fan, it's loud.

7 Our organization is starting a campaign and  
8 we are looking at a 51 percent number, and this comes  
9 from talking to several of the station managers here  
10 in Chicago. And -- okay -- and I do understand that  
11 they need the corporate sponsorships and they need the  
12 corporate participation. I would not suggest to them  
13 that they have 100 percent elected representatives for  
14 practical reasons.

15 But we feel that if you're using the public  
16 airwaves, which we've established we own, that you, in  
17 fact, should allow us to have that 51 percent majority  
18 on the governing board of anyone who using our  
19 airwaves.

20 (Applause and cheering.)

21 MS. BOND: And we propose that, just like  
22 you elect, from that long list of judges on your  
23 ballot every four years, that you would also elect  
24 your representatives for the broadcast outlets,  
25 because you own them.

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1           And I think you'll probably hear comments  
2           from this audience today about the issue of lyrics,  
3           and stereotypes, and things of that nature. There was  
4           a famous Imus incident, and we believe that the FCC  
5           should not be supernanny, you should not be censors  
6           who -- listening to every word that goes out over the  
7           airwaves, and then calling us and telling us whether  
8           or not we can say it or not.

9           What we'd like to see is we'd like to see  
10          governing boards that have that community standard in  
11          place who are operating the stations with  
12          accountability, and they answer to the public. And if  
13          they don't do it, they end up not being on the board  
14          the next time around. And that accountability doesn't  
15          exist.

16          Right now what happens is we, as activists,  
17          are going to stations. We've been WTTW and other  
18          stations to ask them -- to inform them that the  
19          majority of the City of Chicago is people of color,  
20          but when we watch television in Chicago, we feel like  
21          we're in upper Saskatchewan somewhere.

22                 (Applause.)

23          MS. BOND: One thing you may not know is,  
24          and we haven't talked about television a lot tonight,  
25          if you look at the major three broadcast outlets in

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1 Chicago, the CBS Channel 2, NBC Channel 5, ABC Channel  
2 7, WGN Channel 9, and WTTW, our PBS station, or FOX  
3 Channel 32, there is not one single political talk  
4 show hosted by an African-American.

5 (Applause and cheering.)

6 MS. BOND: Go figure. You can't even  
7 believe that that's the case. But, in fact, it is the  
8 case. When we have an election, and you turn on the  
9 television like at 1:00 in the morning, and they're  
10 all sitting around the table reviewing the results and  
11 whatnot, every political director on every one of  
12 those stations, none of them are Black.

13 (Applause.)

14 MS. BOND: And it harkens back to when --  
15 my earlier -- I was not very experienced at being in  
16 Chicago at the time, back in the '80s when Harold  
17 Washington was elected. And I remember watching the  
18 TV at 2:00 and 3:00 a.m. and all of these pundits that  
19 everyone in the city was supposedly respecting so  
20 much, the White political commentators, were sitting  
21 at tables saying, How did this happen? We -- who  
22 knew? How did he end up being elected?

23 And everyone in the Black community knew he  
24 was going to be elected. No one had any doubt,  
25 because we listen to Black radio. We had absolutely

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